

Poetry Explication

1. **Annotate your poem:** Print out a copy of your poem and write your annotated notes on the poem. You should model the level of poetry explication from class. Your poem choice must have adequate length to produce the essay requirement. If not, you must choose another poem or two poems worthy of sufficient analysis.

2. Write a Poetry Explication Essay

Essay Assignment: Write an essay-length analysis (poetry explication) of a poem by one of the Fireside Poets or Emily Dickinson or Walt Whitman. The poem cannot be one discussed in class and must be approved by me.

Length: Approximately 1000 words

Sources: You will quote the primary source (your poem) and two secondary sources (critical commentary written about your poem by experts in the field) as evidence to support your claim (thesis). For example, what is the poem about? Why? How do you know? You will break down the poem for full examination.

MLA: Use MLA format—typed, double-spaced, 12 pt. font, etc.

In-text Citations: Use parenthetical documentation for all sources used. Any claim you make, you must use a cited source.

Works Cited: Your last page will be a works cited page written in correct MLA format, minimum 3 sources.

Turnitin: You must submit your final draft to Turnitin by Friday, January 25th at 4:00.

We will model these steps in class. You will have four days for computer use in the media center.

Your annotations and the essay are assessing your skills based on the common core.